



## Nine by KaitlynRae99

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**Summary:** At first, she only remembered that her name was Nine, given to her by those that experimented on her. Until she escaped and was given a new name. Nina Lance. She was hiding in plain sight from the bad man. Ten years later and they still haven't found her. Until strange things began happening in Hawkins.

## 1. The Escape

A **YOUNG** Asian girl sat on a bed in a fully white room. The fluorescent lights made her skin look ghostly. The room was cold as evidenced by the goose bumps forming on the young girl's exposed skin as she only wore a thin hospital gown. She had no hair as it had been shaved almost to the skin on her scalp. Her dark eyes were looking down at her left inner forearm where 009 was tattooed in black ink on her skin. She has had that tattoo since she could remember.

She laid down on the bed and stared at the plain, white wall in front of her. This room was one of the only places she was allowed to be in making her feel like she was going crazy from consistently staring at the white walls. It was her prison cell...no matter how much 'Papa' would tell her it wasn't.

The door behind her opened causing her to sit up from the bed and look at the door to see a black-haired woman wearing white scrubs and an id clipped to the pocket of her scrubs with *Scarlett Adams* printed on the id, standing in the doorway, holding a bag in her hand. Scarlett was consistently looking over her shoulder as she spoke to the young girl; "Nine, I need you to come with me."

The young girl, Nine, frowned her brows in confusion as she slowly slid off the bed before flinching slightly because of the cold cement underneath her bare feet. The woman grabbed onto Nine's wrist and began to drag her through the empty building as the workers had gone home for the day. Nine stumbled over her feet a few times as she was dragged faster than she could walk.

Scarlett sighed in relief when she finally reached the door to the carpark, but her relief was short lived as when she went to push the door open, she noticed it was locked. "Shit!" she cried out as her hand ran through her hair.

Nine slightly pushed the young woman out of the way and gripped the door handle. Suddenly, the door handle broke off from the door making Nine reach her other hand out to push the door wide open. The young girl looked at Scarlett who smiled down at her. She

grabbed onto Nine's hand and began to drag her again towards a blue AMC Pacer. The woman opened the passenger door and placed Nine into the car before closing the door and rushing around to the driver's side.

"Let's get you out of here," Scarlett said to Nine who hadn't said a word.

The car took off as fast as it could and when it reached the gate, the woman didn't stop which luckily for her, the gate was open. "STOP!" the security guard at the gate cried out but he was ignored as the car drove past him.

He held an intercom to his mouth and spoke; "They escaped, sir."

The man on the other side of the intercom rolled his eyes before throwing the intercom at the wall causing it to break into pieces. "Find them!" he ordered causing those in the room to run out, trying to avoid his wrath.

After driving for several minutes, Scarlett pulled the car up at a two-story red cabin that was miles away from any other houses. Scarlett led Nine into the cabin who stared at her surroundings in amazement as she hadn't been outside the lab ever in her life. "We will have to give you a new name. How does Nina sound?" Scarlett asked once she locked the front door of the cabin.

Nina nodded her head before Scarlett led her to the couch and allowed her to sit down on it. "Nina, my real name is Olivia Lance. I gave the lab a false name because I was tasked to discover what the lab was experimenting on. No one knows that I rescued you and no one can ever know. Do you understand?" Olivia informed the young girl who nodded but remained silent.

A small smile formed on Olivia's face before speaking; "You can talk, Nina."

"Why?" was all the young girl said as she looked up at Olivia who big brown eyes.

Olivia let out a sigh as she ran a hand through her hair. "I work for

the government to put bad people away and keep good people safe. Those people were using you for your abilities, Nina. They wanted you to do bad things for them," she informed the young girl before she wrapped her arms around the girl.

Olivia was a spy for a top-secret government organisation who had been undercover as a nurse at Hawkins National Laboratory for a few weeks to gain evidence of what the labs were doing. She knew that rescuing Nina will force her to give up her job, but she didn't care as since she met Nina, all she wanted to do was keep her safe.

Over the next ten years, Nine's name was changed to Nina Lance with Olivia Lance becoming her adoptive mother. Olivia informed her agency that she quit before she took a job as a police officer for the Hawkins Police Department. After home-schooling Nina for a year, she enrolled her into school. To everyone else, Nina Lance was just a regular girl in a small town. But she wasn't a normal girl.

## 2. Hiding In Plain Sight

"NINA! Time to wake up for school!" a motherly voice called out from downstairs which echoed through the whole house.

A groan came from a mountain of bedsheets that were piled on top of someone. The sheets were pushed towards the end of the bed to reveal a teenage girl hiding under the sheets. She ran a hand through her messy black hair before opening her eyes to reveal her dark brown eyes. "Fuck school," the teenaged girl, Nina, snarled as she sat up in her bed.

She stretched her arms up and sighed in relief at the sounds of her joints cracking. After she rubbed the sleep out of her eyes, she looked down at her left inner forearm and glared down at the sight of 009 inked into her skin. Her hand reached down and threw the sheets off of her before swinging her legs around to rest on the wooden floors. She slowly stood up from the bed and entered the bathroom that was connected to her room. The bathroom had a shower and bath in one with a sink across from it and a mirror hanging above it. Makeup laid across the counter, but they looked hardly used.

Nina removed her pyjamas and throw them into the hamper that was sitting beside the counter before turned on the shower and stepping in once the water was at the perfect temperature. Once her face and body were washed, she turned off the shower and jumped out. Nina wrapped a black towel around herself before walking back into her room to find an outfit for the day. She pulled out a pair of dark washed jeans and a colourful striped turtleneck sweater. Once she was dressed, she laced up a pair of distressed black converse on her feet before she quickly threw her hair into a tight high ponytail.

Nina grabbed her black side bag before heading down the stairs where her mother was cooking breakfast. Olivia Lance turned away from the stove at the sounds of Nina's footsteps on the stairs. She quickly placed the cooked bacon and eggs onto a plate for Nina before placing the pan into the filled sink to be washed after they had eaten. "Morning, Mum," Nina greeted her mother with a kiss of her cheek before sitting down at the table and scoffing down her bacon and eggs.

Olivia shook her head at her daughter attacking her food like she hadn't eaten in years. The older woman leaned against the counter as she sipped her black coffee and watched her daughter. Once Nina had finished her breakfast, she dropped her plate in the soapy water before kissing her mother's cheek and grabbing her lunch that she packed for herself the night before. "Bye, Mum," she called out as she grabbed her keys from the bowl beside the front door before she walked out the front door and towards her blue AMC Pacer.

Once she was in her car, she started up the ten-year-old car and headed off to Hawkins High. She parked in her usual park, which was the furthest away from the school, but she didn't care as she didn't mind the walk. She sat in her car for a moment before she stepped out. As Nina walked towards the entrance to the school, she noticed her red-haired friend, Barbara Holland or Barb as she preferred to be called waiting outside for her. "Hey Nina," Barb waved to her friend before pulling her into a hug.

Nina hugged her back as she spoke into her ear; "Hello Barb."

They walked into the school together and went to Nina's locker for her to grab her books for the day. After she grabbed her books, they waited by her locker for their other friend, Nancy Wheeler to arrive at school.

When Nancy finally entered the school, Nina and Barb began to walk on either side of her. "So, did he call?" Barb asked Nancy, not caring about who could hear them.

"Keep your voice down," Nancy scolded her friend as she didn't want anyone to hear what they were discussing.

"So...Did he?" Nina asked even though she didn't care.

"I told you both, it's not like that," Nancy sassed both of her friends which made them both gave her a look of disbelief.

After a few moments of Barb and Nina staring down at Nancy, she cracked; "Okay, I mean, yes, he likes me, but not like that. We just... made out a couple times."

"We just... made out a couple times," Nina mocked Nancy with a large grin on her face as she leaned against the locker that was next to Nancy's locker.

"Nance, seriously, you're gonna be so cool now, it's ridiculous," Barb informed her friend who was opening up her locker.

"No, I'm not," Nancy retorted back, shaking her head slightly in disbelief.

"You better still hang out with us, that's all I'm saying. If you become friends with Tommy H. or Carol..." Barb was interrupted by Nancy saying; "Oh, that's gross! Okay, I'm telling you, it was a one-time..." Nancy stopped herself when she saw Nina and Barb raised an eyebrow at her.

"Two-time thing," her words caused a chuckle to escape from her lips while her friend shook their heads at her.

Nancy looked down to see a folded note at the bottom of her locker. She slowly unfolded it to read; *Meet me. Bathroom- Steve*

Barb and Nina looked down at note which made the redhead retorted sarcastically; "You were saying?"

"I'll see you guys in class," Nina said as she gave them a salute before walking towards her first class.

When she sat down in her regular seat in the back of the classroom, she noticed that the seat beside her was unoccupied which caused her brows to frown in confusion as the person would always beat her class. She quickly turned to the girl sitting beside her and asked; "Hey, do you know where Jonathan is?"

The girl snapped her gum and rolled her eyes towards Nina. "You think I care about that freak?" the girl snarled towards Nina who glared at her.

Nina gripped the down of her seat and caused feel the seat bending under her hands. She quickly removed her hands off the seat and was grateful that no one could see her display of her strength. Nina had to be careful about using her abilities because if the wrong person saw



her use them, she would be sent back to the lab and that was the last thing she wanted.

### 3. Will Is Missing?

ONCE school was let out, Nina rushed to her car and took off towards the Byers' house. In all the time she has known Jonathan, he rarely didn't turn up for school which made Nina grow concerned that something had happened. When she pulled up to the Byers' house, her brows frowned in confusion at the sight of her mother's patrol car parked out front of the house. She turned off her car and jumped out before walking towards the closed front door. She raised her hand and lightly knocked her knuckles before waiting for the door to open. She was only waiting a few moments until the door was open by her mother who was wearing her blue police uniform and a black wide-brimmed hat that covered her red hair that was pulled back into a tight ponytail. "Nina, what are you doing here?" Olivia asked her daughter who stared at her in disbelief before holding up a binder.

"I'm just wanted to drop off Jonathan's homework and check up on him. What are you doing here?" she asked back to Olivia who let out a sigh.

"You didn't hear it from me but...Will is missing," Olivia informed Nina who gasped in shock.

"He is missing?" she asked in disbelief which made Olivia nod at her.

As Jonathan and Nina were normally partnered up for assignments, Nina had met his younger brother, Will whom Nina knew was friends with Nancy's younger brother, Mike. Nina cared for Will as she viewed him as a younger brother so to hear that he was missing, almost broke her heart.

"Any leads on where he might be?" she asked Olivia who shook her head.

Nina's next question caused shivers to run down both of their spines; "You don't think...they are behind his disappearance?"

Olivia made Nina promise not to mention the lab ever to try and spare the young girl from the horrible memories associated with it. But nothing could make Nina forget the first six years of her life.

Not wanting to answer her daughter's question, Olivia grabbed the binder out of Nina's hands and said; "I'll give this to Jonathan. You can go home."

"But..." Nina was stopped by her mother's glare, making her let out a loud sigh.

"Alright, let me know if I could do anything to help," Nina told Olivia before she walked back to her car.

She hoped that Will was okay and that the lab wasn't involved with his disappearance. But this was Hawkins. Nothing interesting happens and now a kid is missing. Nina guessed that some strange things were happening now in Hawkins.

## 4. A Party Invite

"**WHEN** alpha particles go through gold foil, they become" Barb, who was reading off Nancy's flash cards, was interrupted by Nancy answering the question before Barb had even finished reading the question; "Unoccupied space."

Nina was walking beside them with her head buried in *The Shining*, ignoring the world around her.

"A molecule that can..." Barb stopped reading as the cards were ripped out of her hands by Steve Harrington.

Nina was pulled out of the world of her book by the book being ripped out of her hands by Carol, one of Steve's friends. Carol looked at the cover of Nina's book before remarking in a baby voice; "Is the movie too scary for you?"

Her remark caused a crackle to escape from Tommy H., her boyfriend, and an eye roll from Nina who quickly ripped her book back into her hands and moved to lean against the wall behind Steve.

"I don't know, I think you've studied enough, Nance," Steve said to the girl who he shuffled through her flash cards.

"Steve..." Nancy was cut by him; "I'm telling you, you know, you got this. Don't worry."

Nina rolled her dark eyes as she turned back to her book. "Now, on to more important matters. My dad has left town on a conference and my mom's gone with him, - 'cause, you know, she doesn't trust him," Steve explained making Tommy pipe up; "Good call."

"So, are you in?" Steve asked, looking down at Nancy whose brows were frowning.

"In for what?" she asked in confusion.

"No parents? Big house?" Carol spoke from where she was leaning against the wall.

"A party?" Nancy said making the others remark; "Ding, ding, ding!"

"It's Tuesday," Nancy piped up which caused Tommy to mock her; "It's Tuesday! Oh, my God."

Nina rolled her eyes again from behind her book as she heard Carol and Tommy laugh. "Come on. It'll be low key. It'll just be us. What do you say? Are you in or are you out?" Steve asked making Nancy think about her answer for a moment.

"Um..." she had started but was interrupted by Carol speaking; "Oh, God. Look."

The group turned around to see Jonathan Byers pinned something to the notice board. Nina closed her book and barged through Steve and Tommy, not caring about the force behind her shove. "Jonathan," she called out as she walked towards him.

Jonathan turned towards the girl and gave her a weak smile. "Hey Nina," was all he could say before she threw her arms around his shoulders.

"My Mum told me about Will. I'm so sorry," she informed him when she pulled away, but her hands remained on his shoulders.

"Thanks, Nina," Jonathan's eyes remained looking at the floor as he spoke.

"Let me know if there is anything I can do to help," Nina told him which caused his eyes to move up from the floor to her.

A small smile formed on her face as he gave her a nod. "Hey," Nancy's voice caused the pair to turn around to see her standing behind them, unsure of herself.

Not wanting to be a part of their conversation, Nina gave Jonathan one last hug before saying; "I'll see you around."

Nina walked back over to the others who stared at her like she had grown a second head. "Let's go, Barb," Nina said as she grabbed the red head's arm and glared at the others.

She dragged Barb down the hall towards their next class as a voice rang on the loudspeaker; "Attention, faculty and students. At 8:00 p.m. tonight, there will be an assembly on the football field in support of Will Byers and his family. All are encouraged to attend. Volunteer sign-ups for search parties are still available in the office."

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"I don't wanna go to a party with 'King Steve' and his friends," Nina whined as she drove with Nancy in the passenger seat.

"Please, Nina," Nancy begged her friend who had stopped her car after pulling up to the Wheelers.

Nina clicked her tongue in annoyance as she looked towards her friend. Nancy's eyes were widened, and her bottom lip stuck out making Nina's eyes roll at her. After a few moments, Nina let out a sigh in defeat. "Fine...but you owe me big time," she snapped to her friend who let out a small cheer in victory.

"What are you going to tell your parents?" Nina asked in curiosity as she knew Mr and Mrs Wheeler would not let their daughter go to a party on a school night.

"I'll think of something," Nancy answered as she hadn't thought about what to tell her parents.

Nancy wrapped her arms around Nina's shoulders before jumped out of the car. "You go home and change. Barb and I will pick you up," was all Nancy said before she closed the door and ran towards her house.

Nina shook her head at Nancy before putting her car into drive and driving towards her house. When she arrived at hers, she noticed that her mother's cruiser was not parked outside the red house leading Nina to believe that her mother was working late.

After eating some leftovers, Nina dresses into a white button-up blouse with black lines that crisscrossed with each other, a maroon v-neck sweater over the blouse to keep her warm. The sweater and blouse were tucked into a denim skirt that ended a few inches above her knees and her legs were covered by a pair of grey tights. She

laced up her converse before quickly a writing a note in case her mother come home saying that she was spending the night at Nancy's.

When Barb finally arrived to pick up Nina, Nina noticed that Nancy was almost jumping with excitement while Barb looked like she rather be anywhere else but driving to a party. Nina threw herself into the backseat and slumped against the seats as she really didn't want to go. The things you do for your friends.

## 5. A PartyYay!

**NINA** was staring out the window with her forehead resting on the glass as Barb drove towards Steve's house. "Barbara, pull over," Nancy demanded Barb making Nina move her head off the window.

"What?" Barb asked in confusion which made Nancy snap back; "Pull over!"

Barb quickly pulled her car over and stopped before turning to Nancy in confusion. "What are we doing here? His house is three blocks away," Barb asked her friend in confusion.

"We can't park in the driveway," Nancy answered like it was obvious which made Nina let out a loud groan before snarling; "Are you serious?"

"Yeah, the neighbours might see," Nancy's word made Nina roll her eyes.

"This is so stupid. I'm just gonna drop you off," Barb said which Nina raised her hand in a joking manner.

"I'm going with you, Barb," she said in a joking manner which made Nancy glare at her through the rear-view mirror.

"Calm down, you guys. Come on. You two promised that you'd go. You both are coming. We're gonna have a great time," Nancy told her friend with a sweet smile on her face.

"He just wants to get in your pants," Barb informed her friend who shook her head in disbelief before letting out a chuckle.

"No, he doesn't," she said in sighed making Nina's eyes roll.

"Nance... seriously," Nina snapped making Nancy turn her head towards her before she continued; "He invited you to his house. His parents aren't home. Come on, you are not this stupid."

"Tommy H. and Carol are gonna be there," Nancy tried to reason but her friends were not believing her.



"Tommy and Carol have been having sex since, like, seventh grade," Barb stated which made Nina pipe up; "It'll probably just be, like, a big orgy."

"Gross," Nancy scoffed as she began to pull her arms out of her top.

"We're serious!" Barb exclaimed as Nina rolled her eyes again.

"All right, well you can be, like, my guardian. All right? Make sure I don't get drunk and do anything stupid," Nancy explained as she pulled off her sweater to get changed into her 'party' shirt.

Barb looked down at Nancy and noticed something that made Nina shake her head. "Is that a new bra?" Barb asked, even though she knew the answer.

Nancy looked down at her new pink bra and hesitated to answer before lying; "No."

"Sure, sure," Nina muttered to herself sarcastically as she leaned back against the seat.

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They walked up to the front door of a large house that loud music was coming from which made Nina remark under her breath; "His parents are some rich motherfuckers."

As they reached the front door, Nancy rang the door and noticed that Barb was shifted nervously. "Barb, chill," Nancy told to her red-head friend who looked down at her and remarked back; "I'm chill."

They weren't waiting a while until the front door opened to reveal Steve looking down at them with a charming smile. "Hello, ladies," he greeted the girls, looking between all of them.

He led them to the backyard where Carol and Tommy were messing around beside the pool. Barb and Nina sat down next to each other on the pool chairs which Nina reached into the bag she had brought with her and pulled out *Carrie* and began to read, ignoring the world around her. "One! Two! Three!" Tommy cried out as he pretended to throw Carol into the pool.

"Stop it, Tommy, no! Don't! You're such an asshole, Tommy," Carol screamed out as she hit his shoulder.

Their screams caused Nina to roll her eyes and as she looked over her book to see Steve piecing a hole into a beer can and began to shotgun the beer. She rolled her eyes and scoffed before returning to her book. Once Steve had finished his beer, he tossed the can away and sat down in the pool chair beside the one Nancy was sitting in. "Is that supposed to impress me?" Nancy asked him as he lit the cigarette that was resting on his ear and took a drag.

"You're not?" he asked in disbelief as Nina rolled her eyes from behind her book.

"You are a cliché, you do realize that?" Nancy informed him which made Steve remark back; "You are a cliché. What with your...your grades and your band practice."

"I'm so not in band," Nancy laughed as she shook her head at Steve's comment.

"Okay, party girl. Why don't you just, uh, show us how it's done, then?" Steve challenged as he held out the knife towards Nancy.

"Okay," she agreed as she grabbed the knife from his hand.

She reached into the cooler beside her and pulled out a can of beer before standing up from the pool chair she was sitting on. Nina saw out of the corner of her eye that Barb was shaking her head as Nancy giving into peer pressure.

"You gotta make a little hole right in..." Steve was cut off by Nancy saying; "I got it."

Steve held his hands up in defence as Tommy remarked: "Yeah, she's smart, you douche!"

Once Nancy had pierced the hole into the beer can and began to drink from it, the others beside Barb and Nina began to chant; "Chug, chug, chug."

Nancy had finished the beer and curtsied slightly as the sounds of

cheers around her. She turned around to see Barb looking down at the floor and Nina buried in her book, not caring about Nancy's feat.

"Barb, you wanna try?" Nancy asked, wanting to make her friend feel included.

"What? No. No, I don't want to. Thanks," Barb declined Nancy's offer who grabbed another can of beer for Barb.

"Come on," Nancy tried to pressure Barb which Steve joined in on; "Yeah. Come on."

"Assholes, she doesn't want to do it," Nina piped up as she was no longer reading her book.

"Nance, I don't want to," Barb tried to tell her friend, but she wasn't listening.

"It's fun! Just give it a..." Nancy was cut off by Barb snapping; "Nance."

"Just...Just give it a shot," Nancy said as she walked towards Barb and placing the beer and knife into her hands.

"Okay," Barb sighed in defeat as she stood up from her chair.

"So, you just..." Barb began to speak but cut herself off as the knife cut her skin.

Nina let out a loud gasp as Tommy exclaimed; "Gnarly."

"Are you okay?" Nancy asked Barb as Nina stood up from her chair.

"Yeah," Barb answered which made Nancy remark; "Barb, you're bleeding."

"I'm fine," Barb responded as Nina turned to Steve and asked; "Where's your bathroom?"

"Oh, it's...It's, uh, down past the kitchen, to the left," Steve answered making Nina nod at him.

"Okay. Thanks," she thanked him before grabbing onto Barb's arm and pulling her towards the bathroom.

Once they arrived at the bathroom, Nina turned on the tap and shoved Barb's hand under the stream of water. Barb flinched in pain making Nina quickly apologise. "Why are we here, Nina?" Barb asked as she watched her friend open the medicine cabinet and pull out band-aids.

Barb's question made Nina freeze before she let out a loud sigh. "To be honest, I'm not sure. I mean Nancy wanted us to come but I think she was only doing it to make us not feel let out," Nina suggested as she shrugged her shoulders.

She placed a band-aid over Barb's cut before they exited the bathroom together. After noticing no one was in the backyard anymore, they walked towards the front door and saw Nancy with a towel around herself walking up the stairs. "Nance!" Barb called out but Nancy didn't turn around to face them.

"Nancy," Nina called out which her voice made Nancy finally stop and turn around to face them.

"Where are you going?" Barb asked their friend who responded quickly with; "Nowhere."

Nancy then began to shutter with her answer as she knew her friends weren't stupid; "Just upstairs. To change. I fell in the pool."

Barb stared at her in disbelief while Nina raised an eyebrow at her.

"Why don't you two go ahead and go home? I'll just...I'll get a ride or something," Nancy suggested to them which made Barb say her name.

"Barb... I'm fine," Nancy smiled down at her friend.

"This isn't you," Barb exclaimed in disbelief, throwing her hands down in defeat.

"I'm fine. Just go ahead and go home, okay?" was all Nancy said before she walked back up the stairs.

Not wanting to hear what was going on upstairs, Nina sat on the edge of the pool with her feet in the pool after she had removed her shoes and tights. Barb, however, sat on the driving board, looking down at her bandaged cut which was still bleeding heavily as she watched droplets of blood drip into the water. A sigh escaped from Nina as she leaned her upper body back so she now laying down with her feet still in the warm pool water.

After a few moments for silence, Nina removed her feet from the water and stood back onto her feet. "I'll be back," Nina informed her friend but didn't wait for a response.

Shoving her fingers into her ears so she couldn't hear what was going on upstairs, she quickly walked to the bathroom. Once she had done her business and returned back to the pool with her fingers still in her ears, she noticed Barb was no longer on the diving board. "Barb?" she called out for her friends but received no response.

Her brows frowned in confusion at her missing friend before letting out a sigh in defeat. Putting back on her tights and shoes, she grabbed her bag from where she left it on the pool chair and began the long walk back home. Before she left, however, she grabbed one of the pool chairs and folding it into a small ball. She bounced the ball in her hand a few times before throwing into the woods, watching it disappear into the darkness. A large smirk formed on her face before she turned on her feet and left the house. Unknown to her, Jonathan was hiding in the woods behind Steve's house and he stared in disbelief at his friend clashing a metal pool chair like it was a piece of paper before throwing it miles away from her. He could feel his hands shake at Nina's physical feat before wondering how she did that. What was she? Who was she?